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May 18, 2004

To Federal Communications Commission
Attn: Marlene H. Dortch

Ref: GN Docket No. 04-163
Subject: Public comment

Wireless Broadband Internet technology is desperately needed in our highly forested Rocky Mountain region. Many of the areas needing this service are in the Roosevelt National Forest and Rocky Mountain Wilderness. We are paranoid about the threat of fire in these areas. This technology will be used for Voice over IP, Video over IP, and high speed internet access for emergency response teams. Broadband over Power Lines (BPL) is not feasible in these remote areas.

Video cameras will be installed in remote spotter and isolated locations throughout the Rocky Mountains. These cameras will be networked to provide instant public and fire department access. This service alone could have provided sufficient timely warning for responders to snuff out the Crystal Rock fire last month that wiped out almost 9000 acres of vegetation, and would have been suitable for the even bigger Bobcat fire of 2002.

Voice over IP (VOIP) will be used in concert with cellular phone (if service is available in the area) such that the fire marshal can take his laptop to the field command center and track progress of fire issues on his computer while communicating at high levels of efficiency with his staff. If cellular service is not available, VOIP will be the only means of verbal communication available and critical to the need.

High speed Internet Service will be used by the fire marshal and all his spotters. They will need instant access to data as it comes streaming in from all the locations monitoring real-time progress of the fire, while still keeping awareness of potential new fires.

What regulatory approaches should FCC implement?

Frequency allocation for this critical service should be based on nationwide priority of service, not whether it is "first come first served". IEEE standard 802.16 will be coordinated with the WiFi 802.11 unlicensed service, such that each site can be networked with a wireless LAN on an "as-needed" basis.

Emergency response services have deferred any plans for enhancing productivity using advanced communication technology until now. Discussions have started in support for the IEEE 802.16 protocol for achieving these goals.

Please consider implementing IEEE standard 802.16 as soon as is practical.

Sincerely,



Peter H. Grillo
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